

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

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June 14, 2022

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
301 7th Street SW
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Secretary Mayorkas:

We continue to investigate the Biden Administration's misuse of federal law-enforcement resources to target concerned parents. New information from the National School Boards Association (NSBA) shows that Department of Homeland Security (DHS) employees were involved in discussions surrounding the NSBA's letter and its request that the Biden Administration use the Patriot Act to target parents. On top of your effort to establish a so-called Disinformation Board, this new information raises questions about whether DHS believes counterterrorism resources should appropriately be used to target American parents.

On May 20, 2022, the NSBA released a third-party report it commissioned to examine the events surrounding its September 29, 2021, letter to President Biden.¹ This review offered new evidence of DHS's involvement in the Biden Administration's response to the NSBA letter. On October 1—two days after the NSBA letter—Julia Treanor, a senior official of DHS's School Safety Task Force, within Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, requested a meeting with NSBA staff to discuss the letter and NSBA's request for federal assistance.² The meeting was scheduled to occur on October 21, 2021, but without explanation it was cancelled.³ The NSBA-commissioned report does not offer any details as to why the meeting was later cancelled.

Additionally, on September 8, 2021, the NSBA's then-Interim Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director, Chip Slaven, received several emails from NSBA's then-immediate past President, Charlie Wilson, concerning alleged threats surrounding school boards. In response, Slaven indicated he would consider making a request to DHS for a threat assessment. Slaven wrote:

¹ *Final Report On the Events Surrounding the National School Boards Association's September 29, 2021, Letter to the President*, NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION (May 20, 2022) [hereinafter NSBA Final Report].

² NSBA Final Report, at 5, 22.

³ *Id.* at 5.

I have been very concerned over these issues for several weeks. This rhetoric is troubling and reminds me of similar language during the 1990's after Waco and Ruby Ridge. I have been exploring several options to try and address these issues including contacting the Department of Justice and/or Department of Homeland Security and asking for threat assessment for school boards and public schools.⁴

The NSBA-commissioned report does not specify whether Mr. Slaven ever approached DHS about these matters.

The report shows serious collusion between the Biden Administration and the NSBA to create the justification to use the heavy hand of federal law enforcement against concerned moms and dads advocating for their children's future. Committee Republicans will not let this matter rest. We are committed to fully examining the Biden Administration's use of counterterrorism resources in relation to school board meetings.

To assist in our oversight of the Biden Administration's use of federal law enforcement, including counterterrorism resources, with respect to school board-related threats, and to fully understand DHS's involvement in this matter, we ask that you produce the following documents and information:

1. All documents and communications referring or relating to the National School Boards Association's September 29, 2021, letter to President Biden or the Attorney General's October 4, 2021, memorandum;
2. All documents and communications between or among Department of Homeland Security employees and National School Boards Association staff, officers, and/or executive board members, including but not limited to the communications of Julia Treanor, for the period January 20, 2021, to the present; and
3. Please explain whether you consider the Attorney General's October 4, 2021, memorandum to be lawful and whether you, or any Department of Homeland Security officials raised concerns about its enforcement.

⁴ E-mail from Mr. Chip Slaven, Interim CEO & Exec. Dir., Nat'l School Boards Assoc., to Mr. Charlie Wilson, Immediate Past Pres., Nat'l School Boards Assoc., (Sept. 8, 2021 5:08 PM).

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas

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Please provide this information as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 28, 2022. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan
Ranking Member



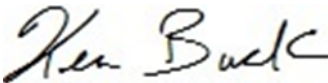
Steve Chabot
Member of Congress



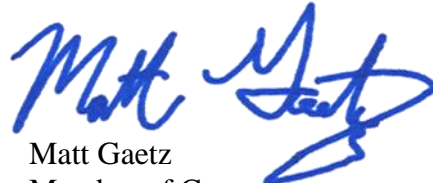
Louie Gohmert
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Property, and the Internet



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and Administrative Law



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Member of Congress



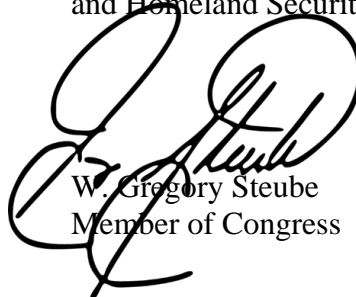
Mike Johnson
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Constitution,
Civil Rights and Civil Liberties



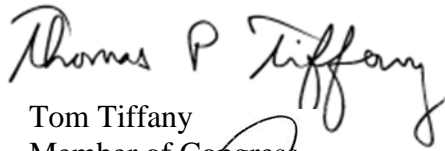
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Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism
and Homeland Security



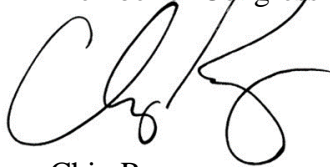
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Subcommittee on Immigration
and Citizenship



W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress



Tom Tiffany
Member of Congress



Chip Roy
Member of Congress



Michelle Fischbach
Member of Congress



Scott Fitzgerald
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens
Member of Congress



Thomas Massie
Member of Congress



Dan Bishop
Member of Congress



Victoria Spartz
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler
Chairman